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1. Society for Threatened Peoples

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introduction

The Society for Threatened Peoples is an international human rights organization with national sections in Germany (approx. 7,200 members), Luxembourg (approx. 120 members), Italy (approx. 20 members), South-Tyrol (150 members), Austria (approx. 600 members), Switzerland (approx. 800 members) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (approx. 200 members). The main focus of our work is the fight against genocide and discrimination against cultures, languages and religions of threatened minorities and nationalities through the use of press releases, conferences, vigils, talks with parliamentarians and politicians. We make information available for the media and try to attract the attention of the international public. Our archive has directories on several hundred threatened groups and minorities; it is one of the largest documentation centres of this kind in Europe.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

1994

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 18 to 29 July 1994, Geneva (12 persons)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-sixth session 1 to 26 August 1994, Geneva (2 persons)

One oral statement on the situation of the Kanaka Maoli, Hawaii

International Conference on Population and Development, 5 to 13 September 1994, Cairo (1 person)

1995

Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development, third session, 16 to 27 January 1995, New York (3 persons)

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-first session, 30 January to 10 March 1995, Geneva (25 persons)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Chechnya (Russian Federation)

Written statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

World Summit for Social Development, 6 to 12 March 1995, Copenhagen (3 persons)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs, thirty-eighth session, 14 to 23 March 1995, Vienna (2 persons)

Oral statement on the meaning of the traditional cultivation of cocoa for the indigenous population in Bolivia

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 28 March to 7 April 1995, Berlin (2 persons)

Economic and Social Council, substantive session, 6 June to 28 July 1995, Geneva (1 person)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-seventh session, 31 July to 25 August 1995, Geneva (20 persons)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Chechnya (Russian Federation)

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the Crimean Tartars (Russian Federation)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the Chittagong Hill People (India)

Oral statement on the human rights violations against the Ogoni People (Nigeria)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 17 to 28 July 1995, Geneva (8 persons)

1996

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-second session, 18 March to 26 April 1996, Geneva (20 persons)

Oral statement on freedom of religion in Tibet (China, item 18)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Chechnya (Russian Federation, item 10)

Oral statement on the self-determination of indigenous people in general (item 7)

Oral statement on the draft declaration on rights of indigenous peoples

Commission on Narcotic Drugs, thirty-ninth session, 16 to 25 April 1996, Vienna (2 persons)

Oral statement on the theme "Cocoa cultivation, international agreements and anti-drug legislation" (Bolivia)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-eighth session, July/August 1996 (4 weeks), Geneva (10 persons)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Written statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, fourteenth session, July 1996 (1 week), Geneva (30 persons)

Oral statement on the situation of the indigenous minorities in India in general

1997

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-third session, 10 March to 18 April 1997, Geneva (26 persons)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Bougainville (Indonesia)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Assam (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the Caucasian minority (Russian Federation)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Nagomo-Bergkarabach

Written statement on the human rights situation in Tibet

Commission on Narcotic Drugs, fortieth session, 18 to 27 March 1997, Vienna (2 persons)

Oral statement on the meaning of the traditional cultivation of cocoa for the indigenous population in Colombia

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, first meeting, 26 and 27 March 1997, Vienna (2 persons)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, 20 to 29 May 1997, Geneva (1 person)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, first informal open-ended meeting, 7 to 9 July 1997, Vienna (3 persons)

Oral statement on the theme "Biodiversity and the politics of drugs"

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-ninth session, 4 to 29 August 1997, Geneva (21 persons)

Oral statement on the situation of the indigenous people in India

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the South Molukkans (Indonesia)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Two oral statements on the human rights situation in Tibet

Written statement on the question of freedom of religion in Tibet (China, item 11)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 28 July to 1 August 1997, Geneva (9 persons)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, second informal open-ended meeting, 7 to 9 October 1997, Vienna (3 persons)

Oral Statement on the theme "Human rights and drug politics in Peru"

Human Rights Committee — Intersessional Working Group on a Draft Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 27 October to 7 November 1997 (7 persons)

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change — seventh session of the subsidiary body for implementation, 20 to 29 October 1997, Bonn (3 persons)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, third informal open-ended meeting, 3 to 5 December 1997, Vienna (3 persons)

Oral statement on the theme "Drugs and alternative development in Colombia"

Other relevant activities

Activities of the Society for Threatened Peoples in relation to the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People:

Events marking the opening of the International Decade in Bonn and Berlin in December 1994, including reception by the President of the German Parliament, the organization of a press conference as well as a podium discussion.

Political and financial support of the self-organization of the Adivasi indigenous group, advising the Adivasi representatives at the United Nations in Geneva (at the session of the Commission on Human Rights).

Campaign for the ratification of ILO Convention 169 by Germany and other Western European States.

2. Centrist Democrat International*

(Special consultative status granted 1950)

Nature and objectives

Christian Democratic International (CDI) is an organization of political parties and organizations inspired by integral Christian humanism. Its main values and objectives are as follows: promotion and defence of human rights and national and

* Formerly Christian Democratic International.

international peace; recognition of the social nature of the human being and defence of basic social institutions, particularly the family; promotion and defence of democracy and democratic institutions; promotion of integral human development, with respect for nature and the preservation of natural resources; application of subsidiarity, solidarity and justice through the social market economy.

In order to respond adequately to the new realities which have emerged since the end of the cold war and the establishment of democracy in a considerable number of nations, CDI launched an internal reform process which resulted in the adoption, on 8 and 9 June 1995, of a basic document on principles and values of Christian democracy and of new statutes. During the period covered by this report, CDI expanded its geographical scope; its membership increased from 67 members at the beginning of 1994 to 76 members at the end of 1997.

Relations with the United Nations and participation in its activities

CDI representatives have been accredited every year to the three United Nations headquarters (New York, Geneva and Vienna), the regional economic commissions and the Department of Public Information at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

CDI has participated in United Nations conferences, including the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, March 1995) and the conferences on women's rights (Beijing, 1995) and population (Cairo, September 1994). It has also participated in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, where it has delivered statements on various agenda items.

It has participated in the conference and annual meeting of non-governmental organizations accredited to the United Nations in New York.

The central theme of the Eleventh General Assembly of CDI (Brussels, 8 and 9 June 1995) was the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations.

On 16 April 1994, the Deputy Secretary-General of CDI, together with the Secretaries-General of Socialist International and Liberal International, visited the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York to express their organizations' support for the World Summit for Social Development, which was to be held the following year in Copenhagen.

The President of CDI met in Geneva on 13 February 1997 with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Director-General of the International Labour Office (ILO) and the Deputy Director-General for ILO Activities in Europe.

International conferences

CDI has held conferences on the following topics, which coincide with the objectives of the United Nations or its subsidiary bodies: "Humanism and democracy in the twenty-first century" (Santiago, 8 and 9 January 1994), at which the President of Chile made a statement; "An economy with a human face" (Manila, 19 to 23 November 1995), at which the main speaker was the President of the Philippines; "Human development in Latin America" (Santiago, 22 to 24 August 1996), at which the President of Chile was the main speaker; "Political development and religious currents in the Mediterranean basin" (Barcelona, 26 and 27 February 1997), at which representatives of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific

and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and of the President of the European Union, respectively, made statements; "Globalization and National Identity" (Paris, 6 November 1997), at which the main speaker was the President of Romania.

Promotion of peace and democracy

This is considered to be one of the organization's primary responsibilities and it has received ongoing attention. To this end, the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary-General of CDI have visited the following countries: Argentina, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Chile, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, France, Luxembourg. Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Hungary, Romania, Norway, Israel, Palestine, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan and the Philippines.

There they met with member parties and organizations of CDI, if any, participated in conferences on topics related to the principles and objectives of CDI and, whenever possible, met with government authorities, religious leaders and leaders of civil society. CDI has issued political statements and press releases on the following topics: elections in Equatorial Guinea; condemnation of the attempted coup d'état in Paraguay; need to advance towards unity in Europe; situation in southern Lebanon; presidential elections in Uganda; presidential elections in the Russian Federation; elections in Nicaragua; situation in the former Zaire; democracy for Myanmar; Oslo Agreement on peace in Guatemala; lifting of the embargo on the shipment of food and medicines to Cuba; proposals of CDI to promote positive change in Cuba; solidarity with the people of Yugoslavia and with the democratization initiatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; threats to democracy in Colombia.

Documents and publications

CDI has streamlined its publications in order to adapt to the new international reality and to its new working methods. Its publications include the CDI newsletter (six issues published in French, English and Spanish) and the proceedings of its international conferences.

3. Transnational Radical Party

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

The Transnational Radical Party (TRP) is a non-violent international political organization founded in 1955.

Since its affiliation with the Council, TRP has followed issues related to human rights, international drug trafficking, international criminal law and linguistic rights at sessions of several United Nations Commissions, such as the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Relations with other international non-governmental organizations

Since 1998, TRP has been a member of the Conference on Non-governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO), and recently was among the founders of the New York Non-governmental Organization Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse. TRP is also a member of the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse. During the past four years TRP has collaborated with several other non-governmental organizations promoting the establishment of informal networks and coalitions to better educate the public on the work of the United Nations and to optimize joint activities regarding specific issues. In 1995, TRP was among the founders of the NGO Coalition for an International Criminal Court, and in 1997, it promoted the creation of the Coalition for an International Language. Both coalitions produce newsletters and participate in United Nations activities related to their mandates.

Participation in United Nations Commissions

Commission on Human Rights

At the fifty-second, fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions TRP delivered written and oral statements on a variety of items, including the question of the human rights of all persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment; further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms; violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories; the human rights of all persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment; the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief; the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities; the rights of the child; racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; indigenous issues; and conscientious objection to military service.

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

At the forty-seventh, forty-eighth, forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions, TRP delivered written or oral statements on the following items: the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedom, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid, in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories; freedom of movement: population displacements; the realization of economic, social and cultural rights; the realization of the right to development; the human rights of women; the human rights of indigenous peoples; protection of minorities; administration of justice and the human rights of detainees; and elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion and belief.

Commission on the Status of Women

At the forty-second session TRP delivered statements on the Beijing Platform for Action and women in armed conflict.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations

TRP presented written and oral statements on the following: measures to enhance the control and monitoring of precursors frequently used in the manufacture of illicit drugs; promotion of judicial cooperation; the fight against money-laundering; and the eradication of illicit narcotic crops and promotion of alternative development programmes.

Committee on Non-governmental Organizations

TRP submitted a proposal for an agenda item on eventual experimentation of an international auxiliary language at the June 1996 session.

Participation in other United Nations conferences and forums

TRP sent accredited representatives to the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) (3-14 June 1996).

TRP circulated literature on its United Nations-related activities to the fiftieth and fifty-first annual DPI/NGO Conferences.

At the special session of the General Assembly on Drugs, TRP delivered a statement. It also took active part in all non-governmental activities such as panel discussions and round tables on drug-related issues and distributed a 20-page briefing paper.

TRP attended meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and the United Nations Diplomatic Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court.

Other relevant activities

To better achieve its objectives TRP has launched several ad hoc campaigns aimed at targeting civil society, the media, and decision makers all over the world. Its major United Nations-related campaigns were "No Peace Without Justice", for issues concerning the establishment of an effective system of international criminal justice, and "Hands Off Cain", for the adoption by the General Assembly of a resolution on an international moratorium of capital executions. The final stages of the "No Peace Without Justice" campaign were a series of international conferences held in various capitals of the world to urge international support for the proposed court. In order to facilitate the widest possible participation in the work of the Conference on an International Criminal Court, inexpensive fares and special accommodation rates were found for delegates from the least developed countries and some 30 young experts in international law and international humanitarian law were enabled to participate in the various working groups. During the Conference, TRP organized a series of public events.

TRP operates a web site (www.radicalparty.org) containing the latest action alerts, TRP's position papers and news on the different issues set by its congressional motions.

4. International Association for Religious Freedom

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

The International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF) was founded in 1900 as an association of individuals and groups who share a commitment to work for freedom of religion or belief through interfaith understanding and cooperation. At the end of 1998 IARF had 80 member groups, 10 national chapters, and individual members in 35 countries. The programmes of the IARF include community service and development projects, conferences, publications, and the work of its representations at the United Nations in New York and Geneva. These activities have been planned and supervised by regional offices in New York, Calcutta, Manila, and Tokyo and by the international secretariat in Oxford, England.

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

In 1995 IARF was represented at the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human rights by Professor Frank Field, and from 1996 the IARF was represented at those bodies in Geneva by Dr. Gianfranco Rossi. From 1995-1998 IARF had between five and seven representatives attending briefings and various committee meetings in New York.

IARF supported the development of the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief, which has been active in New York at the United Nations since 1992. An IARF representative assisted Professor Amor, Special Rapporteur on Religious Intolerance, when he came to the United States to hold hearings. IARF was one of several non-governmental organizations to make a presentation at the hearing in New York.

IARF led the effort in promoting designation by the General Assembly of an Annual International Day for Freedom of Religion or Belief. Twenty-three non-governmental organizations, including IARF, submitted a joint proposal to the Commission on Human Rights. Since 1994 the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief has co-sponsored, with the Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations and the International NGO Committee of Human Rights, the Values Caucus, an annual day for freedom of religion or belief. IARF representatives have always played a major part in planning and carrying out these programmes. The Special Rapporteur on Religious Intolerance spoke at the 1995 and 1998 events, and the General Secretary of IARF also spoke at the 1998 event.

In 1995 several IARF representatives attended and actively participated in the Fourth World Conference on Women. That same year the IARF General Secretary delivered a speech to the Values Caucus in January as part of the Preparatory Committee of the World Summit for Social Development. The General Secretary also spoke at the United Nations on 25 October 1995 at a meeting sponsored by the Committee of Religious NGOs. In 1998 the IARF General Secretary and IARF representatives Sue Nichols and Dr. Gianfranco Rossi each made a presentation at the Oslo Conference on Freedom of Religion or Belief, which was held in observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Since 1996 Dr. Rossi has been representing IARF at the meetings of the Commission on Human Rights. He has regularly intervened on behalf of victims of religious persecution and intolerance. These interventions are posted on the IARF

web site. His interventions made at the Commission on Human Rights in 1996-1998 included statements on the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, and implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief.

Interventions were made at the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (1996-1998) on the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all countries, the prevention of discrimination against and the protection of minorities, the implementation of human rights with regard to women, and the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief (1997, 34th meeting; 1998, 30th meeting).

Promotion of the United Nations

IARF World is published twice a year and distributed to more than 2,000 households and institutions. Specific articles supporting the United Nations covered the following subjects: religion and human rights in Europe; the special programme for non-governmental organizations at the United Nations sponsored by the Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief; the IARF initiative in Pakistan; religious freedom in Romania; the International Criminal Court; the sixteenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, discrimination in Saudi Arabia, and the persecution of religious minorities, in particular the Pandits, in Kashmir.

In 1996 IARF held its triennial Congress in Iksan, the Republic of Korea. The programme included reports by IARF representatives to the United Nations on their work in support of human rights. Those reports were included in the published *Proceedings* of the Congress and were also made available in 1998 on the web site of IARF. IARF also uses its web site to report on human rights law concerning religious freedom; it has links with United Nations sites and other human rights web sites.

5. International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims

(Special consultative status granted 1996)

Introductory statement

The International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) is an independent international health professional organization that promotes and supports the rehabilitation of torture victims and works for the prevention of torture worldwide. The global vision of IRCT is a world without torture which values and accepts shared responsibility for the eradication of torture. IRCT promotes and supports new and existing rehabilitation centres and prevention programmes, initiates emergency intervention projects, and works to secure the necessary funding and political will for the work against torture.

IRCT supports or collaborates with about 200 rehabilitation centres and programmes worldwide. In the reporting period, IRCT directly supported the establishment of a umber of new rehabilitation centres as part of the Regional Strengthening Programme, supported by the United Nations Voluntary Fund for

Victims of Torture and the European Union (EU), including centres or programmes in Morocco, St. Petersburg, the Republic of Moldova and Cambodia. In addition, with the support of the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office, IRCT supported the establishment of the Kosovo Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture in Pristina. Another major achievement was the IRCT's intervention in East Timor, resulting in a nationwide survey on the needs of tortured and traumatized East Timorese. In addition, IRCT assisted a local non-governmental organization, Fokupers, in preparing and debriefing rape victims as part of the United Nations Mission in East Timor in November 1999.

IRCT advocated strongly in the United States on behalf of victims of torture, playing a part in the passage of the United States Torture Victims Relief Act (TVRA) placing the United States as one of the major contributors to the work against torture. In 1999, IRCT joined with Amnesty International (AI), the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT), Fédération international des ACATS — Action des chrétiens pour d'abolition de la torture (FIACAT), Redress Trust and the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT/SOS-Torture) to launch the Coalition of International NGOs against Torture (CINAT). CINAT represents the international non-governmental organization work against torture.

IRCT participation in United Nations meetings in the period under review

IRCT participated in the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in 1997, 1998 and 1999 with oral statements under item 11, Civil and political rights, in addition to submission of a written statement. In 1999, CINAT arranged a parallel event during the Commission on the theme of impunity with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as the main speaker and a panel consisting of the IRCT Secretary-General and representatives of the other CINAT members. In 1999, IRCT also presented an oral intervention under item 12, Violence against women. IRCT participated in the Working Group on the development of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 1999, 1998 and 1997 and at the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat Meeting in New York in 1998. As part of the Coalition for an International Criminal Court, IRCT also participated in the Preparatory Commission meetings on the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the International Criminal Court in June and November of 1999. Representatives from IRCT attended the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture in 1997, 1998 and 1999.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

IRCT is the leading non-governmental organization in the commemoration of the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, 26 June. In 1998 and 1999, IRCT coordinated the global campaign, providing relevant campaign materials to United Nations agencies, other intergovernmental organizations, health professional organizations and non-governmental organizations. In 1999, IRCT coordinated 26 June activities with 116 rehabilitation centres and organizations in 80 countries worldwide. IRCT collaborated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in New York in a joint press conference on 26 June, and with the United Nations Nordic Information Centre in Copenhagen for the

purpose of distributing materials. Finally, IRCT has had contact with the WHO regional office in Copenhagen and with WHO headquarters in Geneva.

Other relevant activities

The work of IRCT includes the promotion of ratification of the Convention against Torture, exertion of political pressure to increase contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, and the commemoration of the 26 June International Day. All of these activities are directly relevant to the United Nations resolutions on torture. Representatives from IRCT have participated in informal consultations with the independent experts/rapporteurs regarding the reports on impunity and reparation.

IRCT held consultations with officials of the United Nations Secretariat in a number of meetings. The IRCT Secretary-General and Legal Adviser, together with the Danish Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, held a meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary of the Committee against Torture during the meeting of the Commission on Human Rights in 1999. The purpose of such meetings was to present IRCT and provide input to the United Nations High Commissioner on the work for the rehabilitation of victims of torture. The Deputy Secretary-General of IRCT held a meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner on 9 October 1999 in order to hand over the Delhi Declaration emanating from the Eighth Symposium on Torture in New Delhi, India, organized by IRCT. The United Nations High Commissioner was Patron of the symposium. The IRCT Deputy Secretary-General, Programme Coordinator for International Relations and Legal Adviser held a meeting with the Secretary of the Committee against Torture, the Secretary of the United Nations Voluntary Fund, the Head of External Relations for the Office of the High Commissioner, and the Assistant of the Special Rapporteur on torture on 23 February 1999 in order to discuss inter-unit and external cooperation on torture rehabilitation-related issues.

IRCT supports or collaborates with about 200 rehabilitation centres and programmes worldwide (see above for IRCT intervention in East Timor).

6. World Society of Victimology

(Special consultative status granted in 1982)

Brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization

The World Society of Victimology (WSV) has as its purpose to advance victimological research and practices throughout the world by various means like the triennial International Symposium on Victimology, publications, seminars, international networking of victimologists and facilitating international, national, regional, and local cooperation to promote the welfare of victims throughout the entire world.

In the reporting period the World Society increased its membership considerably and now has representation in Angola, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation,

Romania, Scotland, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Suriname, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. The number of members from Australia, South Africa and East Asia has grown considerably. This is due to the growing awareness of victims' rights in these countries and to conscientious promoting of the cause in these regions on the part of the Society.

The reporting period has seen growth in national and regional societies of victimology in Argentina, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Croatia, Greece, Indonesia, Serbia, Spain and in Asia.

There are no substantial changes in the sources of funding; WSV finances its activities exclusively from membership contributions.

There are no formal affiliations with other NGOs in consultative status except that WSV is regularly represented at the Board of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (ISPAC). For ISPAC, WSV members contributed to the 1999 paper "Restorative justice", which was officially submitted to the Centre for International Crime Prevention in Vienna.

WSV cooperated with the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, the Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP), attended the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at the sessions of the International Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in Vienna, and was active at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. It concentrated on working actively in the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice expert group on victims of crime and abuse of power in the international setting held from 18 to 22 December 1995 in Vienna and at subsequent meetings in the United States and the Netherlands and was involved in drafting the implementation manual for the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, adopted in 1985 by General Assembly resolution 40/34. The Declaration was in the 1980s the main success of the World Society of Victimology. It had been drafted first within the World Society by Irvin Waller (Canada) and LeRoy Lamborn (United States).

The Secretary-General issued a statement on restorative justice and on victims in the International Court of Justice in February 1997 as a contribution to the special issue of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice newsletter (May 1997). He was involved in the deliberations to prepare Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/28 on firearm regulation for purposes of crime prevention and public health and safety and in the deliberations which led to Council resolution 1997/31 on victims of crime and abuse of power.

WSV was involved in the preparations for the *Guide for Policy Makers on the Implementation of the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power* and for the *United Nations Handbook on Justice for Victims*.

WSV and its Secretary-General were involved in the work of the subcommittee studying the effects of traumatic stress on victims of crime under a joint project of the United Nations and the International Society on Traumatic Stress Studies.

WSV delegations at the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights during the reporting period have been directed by Syed Nazir Gilani and Marie-Pierre de Liege of the Arab World Institute.

WSV held two big international symposia on victimology in the reporting period, one in Amsterdam and one in Montreal. Both symposia discussed the role of the United Nations and the relevance of the United Nations Declaration on Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power. In Montreal, WSV celebrated a whole-day symposium for the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration with 1,300 participants, including high-ranking officials from the United Nations and several ministers of justice from different countries.

A very important role in disseminating detailed knowledge about the Declaration, the *Guide for Policy Makers* and the *United Nations Handbook on Justice for Victims* were the main activities of WSV besides the triennial symposia. WSV conducted international post-graduate courses on victimology, victim assistance and criminal justice. In every year of the reporting period these bi-weekly seminars were conducted at the Inter-University Centre of Dubrovnik, bringing together every year about 30 students from different nations and about 25 professors, including the members of the Executive Committee of WSV. Since 1998, the Asian Post-Graduate Courses in Victimology and Victim Assistance have been organized at Tokiwa University in Mito, Japan. In total, about 160 post-graduate students have become familiar with the details of the Declaration and have spread and will spread this knowledge as multipliers in their respective countries, a contribution to the dissemination and implementation of the Declaration worldwide.

As a last point of describing the relationships of WSV to the United Nations it should be mentioned that WSV could not keep its President in that position because he became the Principal Officer of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, at the United Nations Office at Vienna.

At various levels and on various occasions, WSV has cooperated with the United Nations bodies mentioned in this report and WSV is determined to continue this good cooperation in the future.

7. France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

The purpose of France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, founded in 1986, is to contribute to the promotion and strengthening of individual and collective freedoms throughout the world and to help women and men working for those goals, to help disadvantaged creative minds wherever they may be to bring their ideas to fruition, to provide support to all those who by virtue of their social status or environment risk destitution and abject poverty.

France Libertés has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and makes regular submissions to the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights during their respective sessions in March, April and August of each year in Geneva. France Libertés also participates in conferences, seminars and meetings organized during those sessions by both the Commission and non-governmental organizations.

In 1994, France Libertés participated in the fiftieth session of the Commission on Human Rights and presented oral reports on Western Sahara, in cooperation with Pax Christi International, as well as on Iraq, East Timor, Tibet and Colombia, in association with that country's human rights coordination organization, during which we called the wife of a man who had disappeared to testify. In August 1994, France Libertés participated in meetings of the Subcommission devoted to the fight against discriminatory measures and the protection of minorities.

France Libertés also contributed to preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna and to efforts to increase awareness of its objectives and participated in the Conference. The Conference proposed that the General Assembly should appoint a High Commissioner for Human Rights.

France Libertés helped to organize several concerts at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to assist various Latin American associations (Violeta Parra Foundation of Chile, Children for Music from Bolivia, Chile and Argentina, and the Pastoral Association from Colombia).

In 1995, France Libertés participated in the fifty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights. Our organization made submissions on several agenda items: East Timor, Western Sahara, Tibet, Colombia, Iraq, Togo, Mauritania and, together with the national branch of the International Federation of ACAT (Action of Christians for the Abolition of Torture), Peru. In August, our active work in the Subcommission in Geneva took the form of persistent efforts to increase awareness of the situation in Turkey, Peru and Colombia. As a result, after numerous meetings, and after much negotiation between experts and governments, France Libertés and a large number of NGOs succeeded in bringing a resolution on Colombia before the Subcommission for the first time. As was the case for Turkey, a decision was adopted on freedom of speech. With regard to Peru, we persuaded the Chairman of the Subcommission to make a declaration on impunity in Peru. We also made submissions on China regarding the situation of the dissident Harry Wu as well as Bahrain, Turkey, Iraq, Peru, Kosovo, ex-Yugoslavia, and the Caucasus.

In 1996, as in previous years, France Libertés participated in the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. We made presentations on agenda items relating to Bahrain, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey and Colombia. At the Subcommission, in August, we made a submission on Brazil during which Ms. Jeanete Capeberibe, Deputy from the State of Amapa, spoke on behalf of France Libertés to discuss the problem of the massacres of landless peasants in that country, as well as presentations on the situation of the Kurds in Iraq and on East Timor.

France Libertés also participated in the meeting of the working group on a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In 1997, France Libertés participated in the fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva and made presentations on East Timor, Western Sahara, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Colombia and Peru. In August, we also participated in the Subcommission and made presentations on Colombia, Turkey, the Comoros, Peru, Bahrain, China, Myanmar, Mauritania, Iran and Israel.

A representative of France Libertés visited Colombia in February 1997 to participate in the international NGO preparatory meeting for the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

France Libertés is also a regular participant in meetings, seminars and events organized by UNESCO.

With regard to United Nations resolutions:

(a) In our many submissions on human rights and individual and collective freedoms to the Governments of various countries, we refer to the Charter of the United Nations and its various resolutions, where warranted, to remind the authorities of the need to respect these principles enunciated therein. We made many submissions but will not list them in this short report;

(b) Ms. Danielle Mitterrand, President of France Libertés, had informal meetings with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and took the opportunity to raise the issue of the human rights situation in several countries;

(c) The resolutions and role of the United Nations are frequently referred to in various contexts in the Foundation's quarterly publication, *Lettre de la Fondation*.

The efforts of non-governmental organizations in the United Nations do not always lead to rapid action and satisfactory results on the part of the Organization. It is also true that NGOs have less and less time to make their presentations: currently only five minutes rather than 10 in the past. In addition, States have a right of reply to NGO reports, but the NGOs have no such right. It is, however, important that NGOs be present in the Commission and Subcommission because, to some extent, they complement their work. Indeed, although the United Nations has greater material and political resources, it is not as present in the field as non-governmental organizations, which are in constant contact with local conditions and populations and can transmit any complaints they receive. NGOs also can and must highlight inconsistencies in actions taken by the United Nations as well as remind it of its obligations.

8. World Safety Organization

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Introductory statement recalling aims and purposes

The following report recounts some of the activities of the World Safety Organization (WSO) at the United Nations for the quadrennial period 1995-1998. It is recalled that the purpose of WSO since its founding in Manila in 1975, reaffirmed when it relocated to the United States of America in 1985 during tumultuous times in the Philippines, has been to internationalize the safety and accident prevention movement and spread as widely as possible throughout the world the benefits of practices, skills, arts and technologies of safety and accident prevention. Protection of people, resources, environment and property has always been the major focus of WSO activities and programmes. WSO is a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian, multidisciplinary, multicultural international professional organization working in the public interest. It receives no support from any sources other than membership dues, conference fees and publication, professional attire and accessories income.

Summary of WSO activities on behalf of the United Nations for the period 1995-1998

WSO has global professional interests in safety, health and environmental protection. Therefore, for example, WSO has participated in conference proceedings (notably the sixth session of the Commission for Sustainable Development) and Dr. Seiden, WSO Main Representative, has made various contacts with ILO, UNDP and other agencies. As time progresses, WSO would hope to contribute to substantive United Nations concerns consistent with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, part IV, paragraphs 28-32, and part V, paragraphs 34-39. Paragraph 39 entitled "Special studies" is of particularly critical interest to WSO since WSO has organizational expertise and commitments in safety, health and environmental protection, which are significant areas of concern to diverse United Nations agencies, programmes, organizations etc.

WSO has applied for reclassification from special to general consultative status. Its original application was submitted in 1998, and a second one in 1999 after the first was evidently lost during renovation and relocation of various offices at the United Nations. It is understood the application will be acted upon in June 2000.

Public information and relations are "substantive" areas of United Nations concern since, on balance, it is largely through civil society grass-roots outreach programming of the United Nations that groundwork is laid for later application of United Nations resources around the world to solve international problems. In this spirit, Dr. Seiden has written extensively on behalf of WSO as its main representative to the United Nations.

He produced a limited-edition manual for WSO distributed within WSO and the United Nations entitled *The United Nations: A Managerial Focus and Framework for Understanding* in addition to a much more expansive one for the education of WSO-United Nations representatives. A copy of each was deposited in 1998 with the Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Resource Centre. His small brochure, also written for WSO for general distribution is entitled *What is the United Nations and What's in it for US? The Work of the United Nat ons and its Benefits to the United States*. Both of these publications were offered to various offices at the United Nations for their unlimited use. The larger manual was entitled *Operations, Resource and Training Manual for WSO Representatives and Liaison Officers to the United Nations*.

Also in preparation since 1997, recently completed and submitted in May 2000 to Dr. Hanifa Mesoui of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for her approval prior to presentation of a copy by WSO to the Secretary-General is the manuscript for a new book completed by Dr. Seiden entitled *Problem-solving in the Third Millennium: The Ergonomics and Management of Problem-solving*. This book addresses a pervasive problem-solving "virus" which he terms "defeatability proneness".

A unique programme originally conceived by him several years ago (late 1998) but only recently inaugurated owing to the pressures of business is a tour programme, whereby groups of people representing various non-governmental organizations are bussed to New York United Nations Headquarters. Dr. Seiden provides a 15-20 minute briefing on the United Nations en route to the United Nations. Two tours of this type were finally programmed and conducted in 2000.

They basically include a tour of the United Nations combined with a luncheon in the Delegates Dining Room. Where feasible, there is an emphasis on those works included in the United Nations art collection that are publicly accessible. Thus, this particular programme will span two quadrennial reports, namely, 1998 and 2002. It is envisioned that the programme concept and preliminary procedures manual will be bequeathed by WSO to the Department of Public Information for its use in encouraging other non-governmental organizations to participate in such a programme and implement it in their own areas. (Dr. Seiden has arranged such tours thus far for local New Jersey groups.)

Some WSO publications contain references to the United Nations including one WSO tech letter containing an article on sustainable development prepared by Dr. Seiden for the WSO membership. In 1995, two tech letters and one news letter carried articles on the United Nations. These are related to its origins, milestones and achievements, and support for the United Nations by WSO on the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. In 1998, Dr. Seiden made a kick-off presentation on the United Nations at the WSO Twelfth Annual World Safety and Accident Prevention Congress in Dallas, Texas.

WSO has conducted Global Safety Round Tables at its Annual World Safety and Accident Prevention Congresses and publishes the proceedings thereof. It publishes an International Consultants Directory annually and its newsletters, during the period 1995-1998, have carried articles on occupational health and safety in a multicultural environment, child safety from a global perspective, radiation processing in public health: the potential in Ghana, overview of the current activities of the European Community in the field of injury and accident prevention, safety management in Czech plants, moving into the Asia-Pacific region? a corporate checklist for health planning, emergency response, safety training for Russian oilfield workers, WSO Board of Certified Governmental Safety and Environmental Health Officers etc. There also have been various articles on WSO certification programmes and boards, which are international in scope.

In addition to the above, WSO representatives have attended various weekly Department of Public Information/non-governmental organizations briefings. Owing to pressures of time and personal commitments, these have had to be carefully selected on the basis of relevance to WSO priority interests. Although the WSO world view is panoramic, it has been virtually impossible for any WSO representative to attend more than, perhaps, one meeting a month on average, even in the case of Dr. Seiden who, however, has been able to schedule greater coverage when required including, for example, attendance at every meeting of the sixth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. His predecessor main representative, Mr. Larry Gell, attended virtually every briefing and videotaped them while he was active at the United Nations on behalf of WSO. These videotapes are filed in the Department of Public Information/non-governmental organizations Resource Centre in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library building.

In 1998, a logo designed by Dr. Seiden was offered to the Commission on Sustainable Development for consideration as its own logo. Although WSO has not been contacted by the Commission as yet, WSO hopes that it may ultimately prove to be of interest to either the Commission on Sustainable Development or the United Nations generally. This logo is believed by WSO to be descriptive of the sustainable

development process and its holistic integration of people, resources, technology and the environment for the "world good".

During 1998, Dr. Seiden prepared a product safety standard for WSO entitled "World Safety Standard on Product/Physical Safety — WSO/PPSS 01.1-1998". Copies of this standard were distributed at the 1998 World Safety Congress referred to above. The standard not only incorporates provisions relating to the "Standard Rules of Practice (ROP) for Safety and Accident Prevention", but also emphasizes the human factors and ergonomics approach to safety problem-solving. Consistent with the overarching United Nations focus on human rights, the Standard contains the following specification in its definition of ergonomic design: "... ergonomically acceptable designs incorporate, among other things, human rights content".